



# THE GREEN SCENE

**MANY CAUGHT THE WAVE OF FUN THIS SUMMER AT OUR L.A. COUNTY PARKS!**

## Parks After Dark Program



Park patrons enjoying a dance at Ted Watkins Park

On July 14, 2010, Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation began its Parks After Dark (PAD) program at three Los Angeles County parks. PAD offered surrounding communities and youth extended park hours and activities at Ted Watkins Park and Franklin Roosevelt Park, both located in the Florence Firestone area; and Pamela Park in unincorporated Duarte. Extended park hours were offered on Wednesdays through Saturdays, ending on September 4, 2010. Additional programming and activities included sports activities, cultural and educational activities, musical concerts in the parks, movies in the parks, employment opportunities for local youth and resource fairs. "Parks contribute greatly to the quality of life in our communities and enrich the lives of our children and families

through recreation and physical fitness," said Los Angeles County Supervisor Gloria Molina. "With the "after dark" hours, the County's Department of Parks and Recreation offered an extended schedule of fun-filled recreational, sports and cultural programming."

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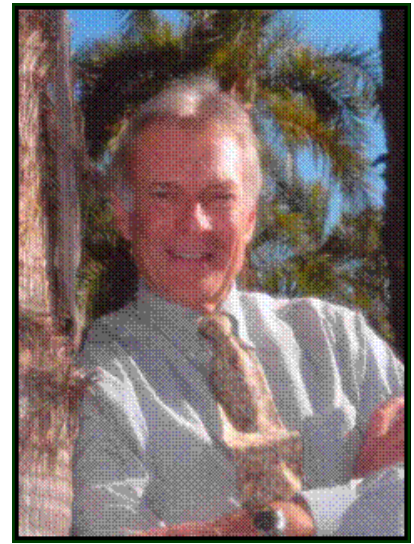


Kids playing pool games at Ted Watkins park



## Greetings from the Director

As the summer season is coming to a close, I want to take this opportunity to acknowledge all of you and what you do to make the Department of Parks and Recreation a valuable resource for the public. This summer was the first time we embarked on a new program called Parks After Dark (PAD). PAD offered added programming and activities to three of our parks during evening hours, enabling teens, children and families to enjoy their time in a safe and enjoyable manner. This was in addition to our regularly available, abundant programming during the day and on weekends, keeping children and teens busy and entertained during their summer breaks. It is because of people like you and programming like this that parks remains an important part of any community. Keep up the good work and remember, you are part of something special.



*Russ Guiney, Director*

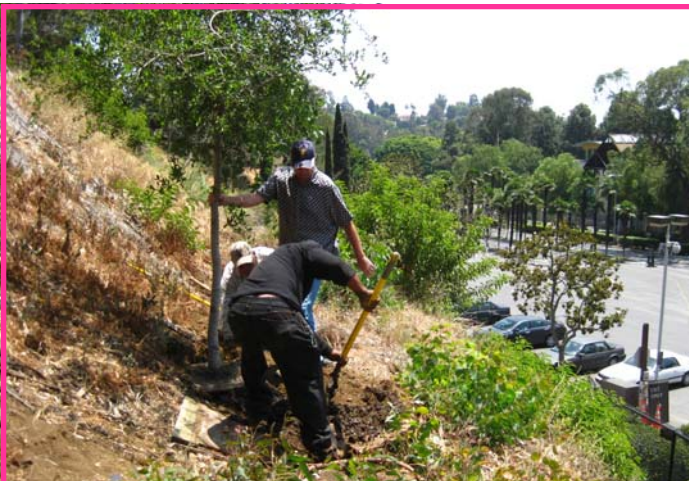
## Audubon International Recognizes the Hollywood Bowl and L.A. County Golf Efforts for Environmental Excellence

Audubon International has recognized the Hollywood Bowl for Environmental Excellence, for its actions to maintain a high degree of environmental quality in a number of areas including: Environmental Planning, Wildlife & Habitat Management, Water Quality and Conservation, Resource Management, and Outreach and Education. Hollywood Bowl management and Grounds maintenance staff, supervised by Bob Ginn, Grounds Maintenance Supervisor implemented and maintains the programs. Hollywood Bowl is the first amphitheatre in California and the 58<sup>th</sup> property in the world to be certified in the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program. Recertification takes place every two years.

Los Angeles County Golf Division was also recognized for acquiring certification from Audubon International by requiring all new lessees of County of Los Angeles golf



**Volunteers plant oak trees on Bowl overview**



**Grounds Maintenance staff working on hillside at the Bowl**

facilities to join Audubon International. The Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program for Golf Courses is an award winning education and certification program that helps golf courses protect our environment and preserve the natural heritage of the game of golf. By helping people enhance valuable natural areas and wildlife habitats that golf courses provide and improve efficiency, the program serves as a vital resource for golf courses.



## Bonelli Park Tunnel Receives Facelift from Girl Scouts

A dreary tunnel under Eucalyptus Road in Bonelli Park received a makeover from Girl Scout Troop 1524 this past Spring. Lisa Rose (Park Project Coordinator for the East Agency) and her girl scout troop, along with her Supervisor Mike Ralston (East Agency Crafts Manager) worked over the course of one weekend and gave the tunnel a brand new look and helped complete their "Junior Bronze" Service Project requirement. The Bonelli staff thanked the girls with a safe and fun boat ride on the lake with Los Angeles County Lifeguards and a fun-filled day at the Michael D. Antonovich Annual Family Music Festival in June. Thanks Girl Scout Troop 1524, for helping to keep our Los Angeles County Parks beautiful!

L to R: Girl Scouts, Melissa Rose 11, and Rachael Agaron, 12



Girl Scout troop 1524 and parents painting the tunnel



## Lake Lifeguard Stars in Reality TV Series

In the month of June, one of our Los Angeles County lifeguards, Oscar Villagomez, 34, from Castaic Lake State Recreation Area spent his vacation in Panama competing in a reality TV series called "Desafío, La Gran Batalla." The program is similar to the popular show "Survivor" but in Spanish. The first show aired Sunday June, 27, and every following Sunday evening at 8 p.m. on Univision, which is channel 34. He flew to Miami for the final taping and the end of the show, which aired September 9. The Castaic park staff were big fans of the show and followed his progress. They held a screening of the final episode on their big screen at the park, with staff and park patrons joining in on the fun! Oscar finished in second place, as one of the top three finalists, determined by public vote! Congratulations Oscar! For more information about the show, see the link below.

<http://www.univision.com/content/content.jhtml?cid=2439453>



Oscar Villagomez



## America's Great Outdoors Presidential Initiative

This year, President Obama established an initiative for "America's Great Outdoors" to promote and support community-level efforts to conserve outdoor spaces and reconnect Americans to the Outdoors. On July 7, 2010, the "America's Great Outdoors" Presidential Initiative event was held at Whittier Narrows Recreation Area and highlighted this effort with a listening session, discussion period, networking opportunities and informational booths from federal, local, environmental and community groups. Everyone was gathered to discuss concerns and issues about the quality and quantity of outdoor recreational opportunities in the San Gabriel Valley. Guest speakers in attendance included senior level officials from the Environmental Protection Agency, the Departments of Agriculture, Interior and Defense, and the White House Council on Environmental Quality. Special thanks to Whittier Narrows Recreation Area Superintendent, Joyce Gibson and her staff for the excellent job they did in planning the last minute event and providing assistance where needed. For more information about the America's Great Outdoors Initiative, go to: [www.doi.gov/americasgreatoutdoors/](http://www.doi.gov/americasgreatoutdoors/)

Chief Deputy Director John Wicker greets participants



Guests listen and discuss environmental issues

## Parks After Dark Program

[continued from page 1]

PAD provided youth with productive activities to decrease the likelihood of participation in at-risk behavior, including gang activity and is a component of the County's Gang Initiative intended to reduce gangs and gang violence. The goal of PAD was to strengthen individuals in communities and influence them to see their communities and neighbors in a better light. PAD was made possible through a partnership among the Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation, LA 84 Foundation, and the County's Chief Executive Office, Sheriff's Department, Probation Department, Public Library, Department of Public Health, Department of Community and Senior Services, Human Relations Commission, Public Defender's Office and District Attorney's Office. Special thanks to Deputy Directors Joe Mendoza and Frank Gonzales, Special Assistant Mika Yamamoto and all of the Park staff who worked so hard to make PAD such a successful program!



Magician shows park patron a new trick!

# HIGH FIVE!

*For Those Who Go Above and Beyond...*

The coalition sponsors of the San Gabriel Mountains and Watershed Community Forum on America's Great Outdoors (AGO) wish to extend their deep appreciation to the Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation for providing the Whittier Narrows Recreation Area as the venue for the America's Great Outdoors Community Forum on July 7, 2010. As the first America's Great Outdoors Community Forum of this type in a park with the magnificent setting of the lake as a backdrop, the principals from the President's cabinet were able to witness first hand one of the great jewels of our region. We wish to acknowledge that the County Parks and Recreation Department from the Director on down to the work crews were phenomenally cooperative and accommodating for this event. We would like to extend acknowledgment of the park superintendent, Joyce Gibson and her staff, who under Joyce's leadership went above and beyond our expectations to insure that the event was a huge success. We further appreciate the Department's ability to accommodate the event on a very short timeline and wish to commend the management staff for their "can do" attitude. As the first "home grown" event of this type regarding the President's AGO Initiative, we take great pride in the fact that 400+ attendees from our local communities were able to voice their ideas about how federal agencies can assist with improving access to the San Gabriel Mountains, parks, rivers, natural areas and recreational resources in our region and providing better stewardship of our natural resources. The coalition group that formed to sponsor this event represents diverse interests both on a national and local scale on issues such as wilderness protection, diversity parity and equitable access to parks for all of our communities, urban parks, river parkways and wetlands restoration, just to name a few. Our overall goal is to insure that a holistic, forward looking 21<sup>st</sup> Century conservation and recreation agenda will include elements which we believe are critical to the citizens of this region such as parity in access to National Parks, local stewardship programs, wilderness and wild and scenic rivers protections. Thank you again for your tremendous support for this event.

**Belinda V. Faustinos**

*Coalition Committee Chair*

*San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles  
Rivers and Mountains Conservancy*

I'm writing this letter to commend one of your employees Mr. Anthony Guajardo for his proactive response to our urgent need to replace the old and dilapidated benches located on the tennis courts at the Ladera Park County Park located on 62<sup>nd</sup> Street. Some time ago, my wife passed on our concerns about the condition of the benches. He was very sensitive to the concerns of the community and took positive action to not only replace the old benches but to have three new ones installed on the courts. The addition of the benches, have allowed the users to relax and appreciate the natural beauty of this park which is one of the most stunning parks in the County of Los Angeles. I represent a group of tennis players that have been playing tennis at the Ladera park Tennis courts every weekend since 1975. We are remnants of the original Ladera park Tennis Club that was once a very vibrant fabric in the tennis community, back in the day. We are very appreciative of your efforts in maintaining the beauty of this park and we want to thank you again for having dedicated people...on your staff who are committed to serving and addressing the needs of the community.

**Al Gragg**

*Los Angeles, CA*

## GIVE Someone a HIGH FIVE!

Do you know someone in our Department who deserves special recognition? Maybe you were on a tight deadline and that person helped you meet it. Maybe you were having a tough work day and that person helped you beat it. You know who those people are, the ones who go above and beyond. Help us recognize them. Email their name and a short paragraph of why they deserve a High Five! to [iperius@parks.lacounty.gov](mailto:iperius@parks.lacounty.gov) and we'll do our best to include them in the





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**Look for Department Service Awards in the  
next issue of the Green Scene Newsletter!**

LOS ANGELES COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION AND  
**SUPERVISOR MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH**  
INVITE YOU TO THE  
**TRAIL** *Quilters Ride* **Sunday 10-31-2010**  
**FRANK G. BONELLI REGIONAL PARK**  
120 E. Via Verde Road / San Dimas, CA 91773

**ACTIVITIES:**  
Check in and pancake breakfast at 7:00 a.m. The event will kick off at the Bonelli Park Equestrian Center at 9:00 a.m. and continue through the scenic trails of Bonelli Regional Park. The day will conclude with a traditional barbecue and live country western music.  
\$30 per person (horse rental not included)

**FOR MORE EVENT INFORMATION AND TO REGISTER CALL: (909) 599-8411**  
**FOR HORSE RENTAL RESERVATIONS: Graham Bros. Call Lee Graham (760) 245-7695**

**SPECIAL RECOGNITION**  
BONELLI PARK SUPPORT FOUNDATION, BONELLI PARK MOUNTED ASSISTANCE UNIT, MARSHALL CANYON MOUNTED ASSISTANCE UNIT, WHITTIER NARROWS MOUNTED ASSISTANCE UNIT, & THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

**ADA NOTICE**  
Pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), the County of Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation has designated an ADA Coordinator to carry out this Department's compliance with the non-discriminatory provisions of the ADA. For more information, you may contact the ADA Coordinator's Office, Tel. (213) 738-2970 TDD (213) 427-6118 Fax (213) 487-0380. Upon 3-day request notice, sign language interpreters and related materials in alternative formats (Braille-transcript, large print, audio-record, video-captioning, live description) or other reasonable accommodations are available to the public for County-sponsored activities and events.

**RIDING CONDITIONS: COMBINATION OF ROLLING HILLS, SOME SEMI-STEEP HILLS, PAVEMENT AND STREET CROSSINGS AND LEVEL AREAS. THE RIDE WILL BE APPROXIMATELY 3.5 HOURS WITH 2 REST STOPS**

NON-RIDERS ARE WELCOME | RIDERS UNDER 18 MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT | NO STALLIONS OR DOGS, PLEASE | NO DOUBLE RIDING

**2010 RESERVATION FORM**  
**ANTONOVICH** *Trail Quilters Ride*  
PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:  
County of Los Angeles Department of Parks & Recreation  
MAIL RESERVATION FORM & PAYMENT TO:  
Supervisor's Trail Ride, Department of Parks & Recreation,  
120 E. Via Verde Road, San Dimas, CA 91773  
FOR INFORMATION CALL: Vincent Pedroza (909) 599-8411

**PRE-REGISTRATION IS A MUST. RESERVATION DEADLINE BY FRIDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2010**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_  
Number of Trail Ride Tickets @ \$30.00 Per Person: \_\_\_\_\_  
Number of Riders: \_\_\_\_\_ Number of Non Riders: \_\_\_\_\_ Total Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_